

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 245531

46

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:PFCANNEY:BAS

APPROVED BY EUR - JAMES G. LOWENSTEIN

S/S: MR. EALUM

S/CPR: AVIS

----- 025727

O 071853Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 245531

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS:OVIP (PALME, OLOF)

SUBJECT: RECEPTION OF PRIME MINISTER PALME AT SEATTLE

REF: (A) STOCKHOLM 4176

(B) STOCKHOLM 4871

1. THE DEPARTMENT REGRETS FAILURE TO PROVIDE COMPLETELY FAULT-FREE VIP RECEPTION TO PRIME MINISTER PALME AND PARTY AT SEATTLE AIRPORT EVENING OF OCTOBER 21. WHILE COMPLETE DETAILS STILL LACKING AND DEPARTMENT STILL INVESTIGATING CASE, FOLLOWING SEEMS CLEAR.
2. UPON RECEIPT REFTEL A, DEPARTMENT REQUESTED SECRET SERVICE, CUSTOM SERVICE AND IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, THROUGH WASHINGTON LIAISON OFFICES, TO EXTEND VIP COURTESIES FOR PALME AND PARTY AT SEATTLE AIRPORT ON OCTOBER 21. THUS THERE WAS SUFFICIENT NOTIFICATION TO THESE AGENCIES OF THE IMPORTANCE THE DEPARTMENT ATTACHED TO THE SUCCESSFUL HANDLING OF THE BRIEF PALME STOPOVER.
3. THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT CHARTER PLANE ARRIVED LATE AT THE SEATTLE AIRPORT AT 2255 ON OCTOBER 21 AND WAS DIRECTED TO PARK IN THE AIRPORT'S SECURE AREA. A SEVEN-MAN SECRET CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 245531

SERVICE CONTINGENT HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO PALME AND A SECRET

SERVICE MOTORCADE WAS PRESENT IN THE SECURE AREA AS PALME'S PLANE WAS PARKED. ALSO AT PLANESIDE WERE THE SWEDISH HONORARY CONSUL IN SEATTLE, CLIFFORD BENSON, AND THE LOCAL

SAS MANAGER, LEIF EIE. A STAIRWAY RAMP WAS POSITIONED AND THE AIRCRAFT DOOR WAS OPENED. AFTER SEVERAL MINUTES A MEMBER OF PALME'S PARTY DESCENDED THE RAMP AT WHICH POINT THE INS INSPECTOR ASSIGNED TO PROCESS THE PALME PARTY ARRIVED AT PLANESIDE IN HIS CAR. BOTH INS AND CUSTOMS AGENTS REPORTEDLY HAD EXPECTED THE PALME PLANE TO BE PARKED AT THE AIRPORT'S REGULAR INTERNATIONAL ARRIVAL AREA. THE INS INSPECTOR THEN REQUESTED THE MEMBER OF PALME'S PARTY TO RETURN TO THE PLANE SINCE IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES WOULD BE CONDUCTED ON BOARD THE AIRCRAFT. IN ADDITION TO THE FIVE MEMBERS OF THE PALME PARTY, THERE WERE ELEVEN CANADIAN PASSENGERS ABOARD AS WELL. AFTER HAVING IDENTIFIED PALME AND HIS AIDES, THE INS INSPECTOR INFORMED THE PRIME MINISTER THAT HE AND THE TWO AIDES WHO WERE TO CONTINUE ON TO SWEDEN WERE FREE TO DEPART THE AIRCRAFT. PRIME MINISTER PALME OPTED, HOWEVER, TO REMAIN UNTIL ELIASSON AND SVENSSON, WHO WERE PROCEEDING TO WASHINGTON, HAD ALSO BEEN PROCESSED.

4. THE PALME PARTY WAS THEN TRANSPORTED BY SECRET SERVICE MOTORCADE TO THE SAS TERMINAL LOBBY WHERE IT WAITED, ACCOMPANIED AT ALL TIMES BY SECRET SERVICE AGENTS, FOR THE DEPARTURE OF THE SAS POLAR FLIGHT. SECRET SERVICE AGENTS ESCORTED THE PALME PARTY TO THE SAS PLANE.

5. IT APPEARS, THEREFORE, THAT THE DELAYED ARRIVAL AT THE AIRCRAFT OF THE INS INSPECTOR CREATED A MISUNDERSTANDING OF WHAT PROCEDURES WERE TO BE FOLLOWED AND WHAT PROCESSING WAS REQUIRED FOR THE PALME PARTY. THE DEPARTMENT, AS MENTIONED ABOVE, IS CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE THIS CASE.

6. DEPARTMENT HAS APOLOGIZED TO MINISTER LEIFLUD AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SWEDISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON FOR BREAKDOWN OF USUAL VIP RECEPTION PROCEDURE. SHOULD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 245531

AMBASSADOR HAVE OPPORTUNITY, SUGGEST THAT HE ALSO EXPRESS APOLOGIES TO PRIME MINISTER PALME ON BEHALF OF USG. INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE245531
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PFCANNEY:BAS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740320-0842
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741162/aaaacain.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: (A) STOCKHOLM 4176
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RECEPTION OF PRIME MINISTER PALME AT SEATTLE
TAGS: OVIP, (PALME, OLOF)
To: STOCKHOLM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005